

The East Sheen Chengannur Trust

Registered Charity No 293567



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Welcome to our latest newsletter which will also be available to view on our website.

ACTIVITIES DURING COVID AND RECENT FLOODS

As with this time last year our activities have been rather disrupted in India because of Covid although we're pleased to confirm that our work has continued although at a slower pace.

Our primary activity has always been the sponsorship of poor children/families and this has continued through the pandemic. Although it has been more difficult for the funds to be distributed to the families Jacob has worked with them to ensure sponsors support continues to get through to where it's needed. Some families have experienced additional problems with the recent flooding in Kerala which was briefly mentioned on the BBC news in the UK earlier this month.



Jacob managed to distribute about 50 packs of provisions costing about £7 per kit to affected people in the flooded area with the help of the elected representative (local govt official)



Schools here reopened on Nov 1st and we managed to give out some books & umbrellas to a school. The school is the local lower primary school in Chengannur. They only have 30 students as only the poorest families send their children here. The parents are mostly labourers. The man in white is the local elected representative through whom we made the distribution. We also provided similar items to a local disabled school.



SUCCESS THROUGH SPONSORSHIP

Nearly 250 families have been helped through our sponsorships over the years. Although our sponsorships were envisaged to last while the children were at school many sponsors have continued beyond then as the children turn into adults and make their way in life. Each has received enormous benefits through the money donated and Jacob has recently sent details of how two such families have achieved a successful way out of poverty.....

“Sunil and Sulekha lost both their parents when they were little children and were brought up by their grandmother who is still alive but old and weak. They were sponsored until 2008. **Sulekha**, now a lab technician, got married to Rajeev earlier and they now have a baby. They live in Kerala.

Sunil is an automobile salesman in Muscat in the Gulf and got married to Anju a nurse in August, 2021. We were



invited to the wedding and gave them a small gift too. We managed to build them a small house in 1997 at a cost of Rs. 48000/- (around £500 then) and that was our 12th house. Photos are of Sunil and Sulekha taken for their case history way back in 1996 and Sunil on his wedding day. The children worked hard with financial help from their sponsor and we are happy to see them now in this position and they remain grateful for our support in their most needy days. Pictures like this make you all the more happy especially when you see children climb up the ladder of life."



"Amal and Aswathy also lost both their parents early in life and were brought up by

their grandparents Sivasankar and Ponamma who were clay pot makers. They were sponsored from 2006 to 2015. **Ashwathy** studied hard in Bangalore to become a nurse. She got married to Murali who is a welder in Russia. She passed exams and went to Malta to work. She was smart enough to write another test and is now a Nurse in the UK in the Peterborough City Care Centre under the NHS! **Amal** finished his hotel management studies in Bangalore and works in the hotel industry and hopes to go abroad soon. Pictures show making pots - snap taken for their case history back in 2005 and recently in front of her hospital in Peterborough. She is in touch with me on Whatsapp and it is such a nice feeling to see her successful and happy working in the UK"



If you would like to donate to any of our projects please send any amount to us however big or small;

- Cheques can be sent to the address above.
- You can send by bank transfer direct to our Lloyds Bank account number 61385660 Sort Code 77-91-48 (a follow up email to us would be helpful to identify payments and if you wish the donation to be used for a specific fund)
- or you can pay by Paypal and debit or credit card by clicking on the Donations tab on our website.

You're welcome to specify where you would like the money spent. We have Building, Education, Hungry (food aid) funds and a General & Emergency Fund. If you don't specify we'll put it in the latter.

If you're a sponsor and wish to send messages or cards please send direct to Jacob (details can be supplied if you need them again). Any money needs to be sent to us in the UK as in the above instructions.

Thank you very much to everyone who has generously contributed to our sponsorships and other causes during the year.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

